

In the Specification

Please replace Page 12, Lines 24 through Page 13, Line 2 with the following:

In one embodiment, line card 36 comprises a port 50, a DSL chip 54, a processor 58, and a memory 60 storing a program 62 and a ~~database 64~~ **database 66**. Processor 58 is coupled to DSL chip 54 and memory 60. DSL chip 54 is coupled to port 50. Port 50 is coupled to line 24 and used to establish a DSL connection 26 with customer device 18A. Communications device 18A comprises a processor 20, a DSL chip 64, and a port 68. DSL chip 64 is coupled to processor 20 and port 68. Port 68 is used to establish DSL connection 26 with DSLAM 30 over line 24.

Please replace Page 20, Line 12 through Page 21, Line 6 with the following:

Method 310 starts at step 314. At step 318, line cards 36 of DSLAM 30 establishes a communications link with communications device 18A. At step 320, DSL chip 54 determines whether the train-up process with communications device 18A has been successful. If yes, then "yes" branch is followed to step 324. If no, then "no" branch is followed to step 328. At step 328, a safe train-up is conducted by ~~DSL chip 354~~ **DSL chip 54**. In one embodiment, a set of parameters that may be used for the safe train-up procedure may include some or all of the following: A first parameter indicating that bit-swapping is disabled, a second parameter indicating that trellis coding is disabled, a third parameter indicating that full power mode is used (e.g. no power management is conducted), and/or a fourth parameter indicating that overhead framing mode three is supported; however, any other suitable parameter or parameter set that decreases the probability of train-up failure, as determined by one skilled in the art, may be used as a safe train-up parameter/parameter set. In one embodiment, as a part of the safe train-up procedure, parameters indicating an identification of a market-leading vendor and a well-known revision number of a released product may be used. In one embodiment, steps 320 and 328 may be omitted and method 310 may proceed directly from step 318 to step 324.